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Department of State ACTION TELEGRAM

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ACTION OCS-06

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R 172148Z JAN 83
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3859

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 00453

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: CDES (SULLIVAN, JOHN)
SUBJECT: W/W - JOHN SULLIVAN

REF: (A) STATE 8466; (B) STATE 2536.

1. UNTIL THESE REMAINS ARE POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED AS JOHN SULLIVAN WE THINK IT PREMATURE TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE AREAS THAT FBI INVESTIGATIVE EXPERTISE MAY BE BROUGHT TO BEAR AND PREMATURE TO DISCUSS WITH THE GOES, A SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR FBI ASSISTANCE INTO THIS MATTER (REF B).

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE WE DELIVERED TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS ON JANUARY 14 (REF A). AS SOON AS REPLY IS RECEIVED, DEPT. WILL BE INFORMED.

3. QUOTE NR 22. THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR AND HAS THE HONOR TO REQUEST THE ASSISTANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF EL SALVADOR IN RESOLVING THE WHEREABOUTS OF UNITED STATES CITIZEN JOHN J. SULLIVAN. MR. SULLIVAN DISAPPEARED IN SAN SALVADOR ON DECEMBER 28, 1980. REMAINS DISCOVERED IN NUEVO CUSCATLAN MAY WELL BE THOSE OF MR. SULLIVAN. A FORENSIC DOCTOR IN THE UNITED STATES HAS COMPARED X-RAYS TAKEN OF THE REMAINS IN NUEVO CUSCATLAN WITH X-RAYS TAKEN OF MR. SULLIVAN. THE DOCTOR FEELS THAT THERE IS A VERY STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT THE REMAINS ARE THOSE OF MR. SULLIVAN. THESE PRELIMINARY FINDINGS, COMBINED ITH THE CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE OF THE CASE, MAKE IT HIGHLY PROBABLE THAT THE REMAINS ARE INDEED THOSE OF MR. SULLIVAN. THE DOCTOR WOULD LIKE TO EXAMINE THE REMAINS IN ORDER TO CONCLUSIVELY IDENTIFY THEM. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT EXPEDITIOUS SHIPMENT OF THE REMAINS TO THE U.S. WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN RESOLVING THIS LONG STANDING MATTER. THE EMBASSY, THEREFORE, REQUESTS THE ASSISTANCE OF THE MINISTRY IN MAKING THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS THAT WOULD ENABLE US TO SEND THE REMAINS IN QUESTION TO THE UNITED STATES FOR A CONCLUSIVE EXAMINATION. THE REMAINS WILL BE RETURNED TO EL SALVADOR IF THE FORENSIC EXAMINATION PROVES INCONCLUSIVE. THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS ITS ASSURANCES OF THE HIGHEST AND MOST DISTINGUISHED CONSIDERATION. THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SAN SALVADOR, JANUARY 13, 1983 UNQUOTE.
HINTON

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY MAR 1 5 1984 DATE
RDS1 for XDS1 EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S).
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